

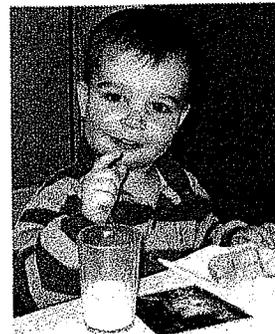
WHAT MAKES ISD STUDENTS SPECIAL?

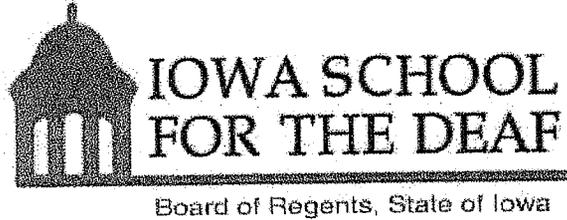
- Literacy skill development in every person requires that four essential elements be built sequentially. The mastery of these four elements is the critical foundation for the learning and mastery of all other educational and life content. Once these four elements are in place, they are continually refined throughout life.
 - Listening--starts naturally, from birth, and usually is effortless
 - Speaking--follows listening and occurs through imitation of what is heard
 - Reading—emerges around ages 4-6, based on vocabulary learned through years of listening and speaking
 - Writing--develops almost simultaneously with reading

- Students who were born deaf or experience early hearing losses lack the most essential building block to literacy. An early hearing loss means that a child cannot listen. This lack will prevent or significantly delay all other literacy skills and learning unless intervention occurs.

ABOUT ISD

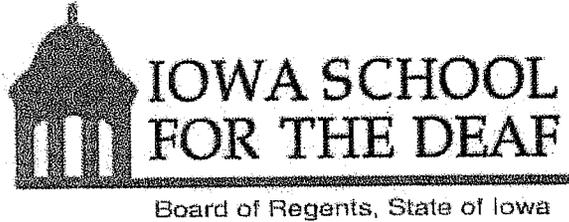
- The Iowa School for the Deaf is a “Special School” that serves all districts in the state of Iowa.
- ISD provides a sign language immersion environment and special teaching techniques for students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.
 - The majority of states have this option for students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing
 - This is part of the “continuum” of educational options mandated by state and federal special education laws





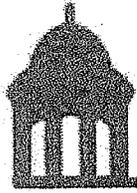
THE ISD STUDENT POPULATION

- The Iowa School for the Deaf provides a comprehensive series of programs for a diverse population of students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.
 - ISD serves Iowa students from Preschool through age 21, who are eligible under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Iowa special education statutes
 - ISD has served Nebraska students through special contract(s) since 1998
 - There are 104 students participating in on-campus school programs
 - Additionally, 60 students, who require minimal assistance to participate in regular classrooms, are served by ISD itinerant teachers in southwestern Iowa AEA 13
 - ISD students represent a wide range of learning abilities and needs



ISD PROGRAMS

- The Iowa School for the Deaf environment provides literacy, language, concept, social, and content skill development uniquely designed for deaf students.
- ISD's new "4PLUS" program (Postsecondary Learning for Ultimate Success) will help eligible students, until age 21, successfully move into postsecondary opportunities.
 - 4PLUS students remain past the senior year, co-enrolled at a community college or working, and receive ISD support and tutoring to negotiate the transition from high school
 - 4PLUS expands ISD's outreach to deaf or hard-of-hearing students from all of Iowa's districts, regardless of prior ISD attendance
- ISD also serves all Iowa districts through other outreach, information dissemination, and technical assistance.
 - Examples: parent support and information group on ICN, teacher inservices specific to educating students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing



IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Board of Regents, State of Iowa

ISD CURRENT NEEDS

- A Teacher Quality appropriation for salaries of ISD teachers
 - All ISD teachers are Highly Qualified teachers and meet the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and IDEA, as well as state requirements for the Iowa Department of Education (Iowa DE) and Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE)
- Sprinkler fire safety system appropriation for student dormitories
- Appropriation for completion of new Science classrooms and lab (currently under construction--remedial asbestos abatement and other preparation for the area are finished)
 - Original science area, dating to 1930, is inaccessible to students in wheelchairs and those with other mobility challenges and is extremely outdated
 - Updated science facility will promote student knowledge and skill development for science content and strengthen curriculum